

# *This Week at St Mary's*

## EASTER DAY 2020

### WHAT ABOUT RECEIVING COMMUNION?

You may have seen that some churches are having 'spiritual communion' services. These are extreme times, we are now at the 4<sup>th</sup> week when we have been unable to meet.

To quote from the C of E website (see link below:) *The term 'Spiritual Communion' has been used historically to describe the means of grace by which a person, prevented for some serious reason from sharing in a celebration of the Eucharist, nonetheless shares in the communion of Jesus Christ. The form of prayer below offers Christians an opportunity to give thanks for their communion with him, particularly at times when they would ordinarily be present at the Eucharist.*

To put things practically, with watches synchronised so to speak, the Priest celebrates alone, or with his/her household and congregation members at home participate as suggested. This works best I think if the Priest can be seen in the familiarity of the church building, ie it's 'live-streamed'. That is not an option open to us.

I fully appreciate how important to many at St Mary's it is to receive communion and I share this sense of loss. On Easter Day we are bound to feel especially so. What is the right way for us? All I could do is to celebrate from home. Doubtless we could include some music, but my own feeling is that it would feel different from what we are used to, indeed quite possibly just a pale shadow of what it is when people gather and we all physically participate.

For that reason, I suggest we do 'spiritual communion' via the Diocese. Prioritising our own service, you can also easily access either the Prayer Book or Common Worship Services coming from Southwell. See the Diocese's website for the link(s).

<https://www.churchofengland.org/sites/default/files/2020-03/Guidance%20on%20Spiritual%20Communion%20and%20Coronavirus.pdf>

*Tom Gillman*

## PUTTING TOGETHER A VIRTUAL SERVICE: BEHIND THE SCENES

There are really four phases to putting together the service: they don't all happen necessarily in this order, but I hope this gives you some insight into the process.

### **1 Planning**

Like all church services, these 'virtual services' start with a plan of the liturgy, so the first thing that normally happens is I receive a draft order of service, and then John and I consult on what music is available or suitable from the church's archive of recordings. There are also the hymns to do, so John will send me the organ backing tracks and copies of the relevant pages from HAM for me to send out to the singers, so they can record their parts.

### **2 Editing & Initial Assembly**

It's at this point that the content itself starts to arrive in my inbox - readings, prayers of intercession, contributions to the hymns from choir members, and this is when I'm able to start laying things out on the timeline. Tweaking of the final timings (gaps between items etc) will happen a bit later.

Most of the audio I receive is recorded on smartphones, so I need to get rid of any background noise or hiss, edit out false starts etc. to get it sounding as good as it can.

### **3 Mixing**

Once I've received, sorted out and placed all the individual components, it's time to mix. This particularly applies to the Hymns especially to get 15+ voices sounding like a blended choir in a realistic acoustic.

### **4 Mastering & Final Checks**

This is where I listen through to the broadcast from start to finish, to check for any errors, and that the overall levels are appropriate (so it's loud enough for low-power devices like smartphones or tablets) and do any final tweaking to the timings.

*Francis Shepherd*

### **GIVING MONEY**

With no collections, regular giving can be done **online or by cheque**. Preferable from the church's viewpoint is a **Standing Order** (NatWest 560061 00834602 ) but we would be most grateful for a **one off payment**. You can also use the QR code here on the last page (hover over it with your mobile), and we aim to have the **Donate facility** on the website operational soon.

**Wherever you are, we extend a very warm greeting to you, especially if you've recently discovered St Mary's**

***We regret that in the current public health context, St Mary's has to remain closed***

## **THE MEADOWS FOOD BANK**

Following the Archbishops' challenge to active expressions of Christian love during the current crisis, we are re-engaging in **supporting a local food bank** based at the Methodist church which is part of the Bridgeway Shopping Centre in The Meadows.

Thank you so much to those who have already responded with gifts of food and money; great expressions of active Christian love for those in need in our local community.

They would like: **breakfast cereal, biscuits, small bags of sugar, jam, marmalade, tinned rice pudding, squash/juice, tinned carrots, washing up liquid, shower gel, men's deodorant, shaving foam, shampoo.**

Please contact Beth Mitchell on 07775707855 or 0115 9476736 or at [tony.m1941@icloud.com](mailto:tony.m1941@icloud.com). She will help with collection of goods or can give details of the Food Bank's bank account for financial donations.

Approximately 8,000 people live in the Meadows, with double the national average aged 18 - 24 years. With higher than national average unemployment, 35% of households receive Council Tax benefit and/or Housing Benefit. It has one of the highest rates of children affected by income related poverty in the country. Educational attainment is low. There is a higher than national average proportion of ethnic minority groups.

The Food Bank has been running for 8 years. An initiative of Hope Church, it has become the responsibility of the Methodist church and now operates with 50 volunteers, giving away about 18 tonnes of food each year. It has moved its warehouse from an upstairs area to the sports hall because of storage problems.

At this time of exceptional need, please support this initiative in whatever way you can.

# HOLY WEEK AND EASTER SERVICES

*(See our website and follow the link including Orders for each Service)*

## Good Friday

12pm **Three hours at the Cross (Pt 1)**, to include Allegri's Misere, dramatized reading of Passion story (John), and chorales from JS Bach's St John Passion

2.30pm **Three Hours at the Cross (Pt 2)** concluding with Finzi's Lo, the full, final sacrifice

7pm Via Crucis by Franz Liszt, by the Nottingham Baroque Soloists, with readings.

## Easter Day

11am Easter Day Morning Service

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**Please continue to pray for**

Estelle Barks  
John Bowers  
John Conway  
Harry Palmer  
Mike Ridley

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